

## MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Information			
Module Title	Fundamentals of Finance		
Module Code	UMACTA-30-M	Level	M
For implementation from	September 2018		
UWE Credit Rating	30	ECTS Credit Rating	15
Faculty	FBL	Field	Accounting and Finance
Department	Accounting, Economics and Finance		
Contributes towards	MSc Finance		
Module type:	Standard		
Pre-requisites	None		
Excluded Combinations	None		
Co- requisites	None		
Module Entry requirements	n/a		

Part 2: Description
<p>The module Fundamentals of Finance provides the context within which the other modules are then placed; it introduces students to the scope of the wider programme; it emphasises the importance of intra-programme progression within the student mind-set; and it provides a firm theoretical foundation and for many of the more advanced topics which appear later in the programme.</p> <p>In particular, the module will provide students with the basic background and knowledge of modern finance and corporate finance and equip them with the basic knowledge which will help them in other MSc Finance modules.</p> <p>The module will run in two parts. The first part is common to the MSc Accounting and Finance students and deals with financial management for decisions makers, covering the investing and financing decision of companies. The second part lays the foundations of modern finance and corporate finance. The topics dealt with in the second part will be expanded in other modules within the programme.</p>

Syllabus:

**Financial Management for decisions makers ( shared part with MSc Accounting and Financial Management) part A**

The role of the financial manager and time value of money

Investment appraisal: NPV/IRR/Payback

Investment appraisal: Relevant cash flows, tax and risk in investment appraisal

Working capital: stock, cash and credit management

Cash flow forecasts and introduction to budget

Sources of Finance: Debt, equity, retained earnings, short-term and long-term finance

Cost of equity, valuation of debt and WACC

WACC and introduction to capital structure

Overview of financial management and the finance function.

Financial markets and institutions

**Fundamentals of modern finance theory and corporate finance part (only for MSc Finance) part B**

Basic statistics for finance and applications to Risk and Return

Portfolio Theory

Introduction to Asset Pricing: the CAPM

Financial Markets roles and basic concepts in finance: arbitrage, efficiency, asymmetric information, agency theory

Macroeconomics and finance: interest rates

A primer on mergers and acquisitions

An overview of the methods of valuation of companies for M&A

International Finance: an introduction

International Finance: Forward and Money Market Hedge

The dividend decision: an introduction to dividend policy

Teaching and Learning methods:

The weekly scheduled contact is 6 hours. The contact hours will be used for formal lecturing and tutorial/seminar work

Real-life, practical examples will be introduced to help engage the students in financial planning and decision making processes. The emphasis will very much be on why we do things as opposed to simply following the well-trodden routines. Students will be encouraged to approach the issues from a variety of different angles, from a financial management and a financial investment perspective. Students will be encouraged to participate and share any practical experiences so that the class as a whole benefits from the collective experience.


- Students will be actively encouraged to make themselves familiar with the study skills web pages and in particular to read widely around the subject matter. Active use will be made of Blackboard facilities.
- Students will be actively encouraged to study independently in order to gain a deep understanding of the issues covered, as well as recent developments in the theories and practices of financial management. Students, in addition to the scheduled contact hours, should engage with essential reading, case study preparation, assignment preparation and completion etc.

**Part 3: Assessment**

There are two components in the module. The first component is an unseen 2 hour written exam (70%). The second component is a coursework with a group assignment and an individual element (30%). The group assignment will be a comprehensive case study with a group presentation, and the individual element will be a 1,000 word assignment based on the case study. Each form of assessment addresses the learning outcomes; the coursework and case study develop and assess a range of learning outcomes but with particular emphasis on transferable skills, the group presentation and individual report focuses on developing students' understanding and critical thinking skills, while the examination emphasizes, in particular, the cognitive and subject specific skills.

- Non-assessed formative feedback will be provided on group work activities and individual practical

problems.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The assessment criteria for the coursework assignment (and how they relate to the stated learning outcomes) will be communicated to students when they are notified of the topic.</li></ul>			
Component A is a 2-hour written exam. Component B is composed of a 15-minute in-class presentation and an individual coursework of 1,000 words.			
Identify final timetabled piece of assessment (component and element)		Component A Written Exam	
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)		A: 70%	B: 30%
First Sit			
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element		Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. 2 hour written examination		100%	
Component B Description of each element		Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. Group presentation based on case study (max 20 mins)		70%	
2. Individual coursework assignment based on case study (1,000 words)		30%	
Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)			
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element		Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. a 2 hour written examination		100%	
Component B Description of each element		Element weighting (as % of component)	
1. Individual coursework assignment based on case study		100%	
Part 4: Learning Outcomes & KIS Data			
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this module students will be able to:  Understand the key tools of corporate financial management. (A1, B1, B3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Apply a range of business planning, forecast, evaluation and control tools to real-world situations. (B1, B3)</li><li>Grasp the risk-return theoretical framework and its application to portfolio management. (A1)</li><li>Appreciate the international and corporate governance context of financial management. (A1, B1)</li><li>Engage in sensitivity, scenario and forecast analyses using computer spreadsheets. (B1, B2)</li><li>Evaluate the appropriateness of an organisation's control and performance measurement systems, apply basic management accounting techniques to aid in the financial management and make recommendations for improvement. (A1, B3)</li><li>Exhibit an understanding of the fundamentals of asset valuation for key asset classes. (A1)</li><li>Critically evaluate the merits of alternative sources of finance. (A1, B2, B3)</li><li>Debate the competing theories of corporate finance. (A1, B1, B2)</li></ul>		

Key Information Sets Information (KIS)	<b>Key Information Set - Module data</b>					
	Number of credits for this module				30	
	Hours to be allocated	Scheduled learning and teaching study hours	Independent study hours	Placement study hours	Allocated Hours	
	300	72	228	0	300	
Contact Hours	The table below indicates as a percentage the total assessment of the module which constitutes a;					
Total Assessment	<b>Written Exam:</b> Unseen or open book written exam					
	<b>Coursework:</b> Written assignment or essay, report, dissertation, portfolio, project or in class test					
	<b>Practical Exam:</b> Oral Assessment and/or presentation, practical skills assessment, practical exam (i.e. an exam determining mastery of a technique)					
	Total assessment of the module:					
	Written exam assessment percentage				70%	
	Coursework assessment percentage				30%	
	Practical exam assessment percentage				0%	
					100%	
Reading List	<a href="https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/8141E840-1985-65A3-AA36-9CD8A6D10D0B.html">https://uwe.rl.talis.com/lists/8141E840-1985-65A3-AA36-9CD8A6D10D0B.html</a>					

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

First CAP Approval Date	September 2010			
Revision CAP Approval Date <i>Update this row each time a change goes to ASQC</i>	31 May 2018	Version	3	<a href="#">link to RIA</a>